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ANIMAL MORTALITY FACILITY

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 316

ANIMAL MORTALITY FACILITY

An animal mortality facility is an on-farm facility for the treatment or disposal of livestock and poultry carcasses.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

An animal mortality facility provides for disposal of animal carcasses using methods such as incineration, composting, disposal pits, and freezing/rendering to minimize pollution of, or harm to the soil, water, air, plant, or animal resources, as well as to humans. Properly designed facilities will reduce the impact of odors, decrease the likelihood of the spread of disease or other pathogens, and provide contingencies for normal and catastrophic mortality events.

Design criteria for this practice include site location, design sizing, storage period, safety features, and fabricated structure criteria. An operation and maintenance plan is developed to specify requirements for facility inspection and proper disposal of residual material.

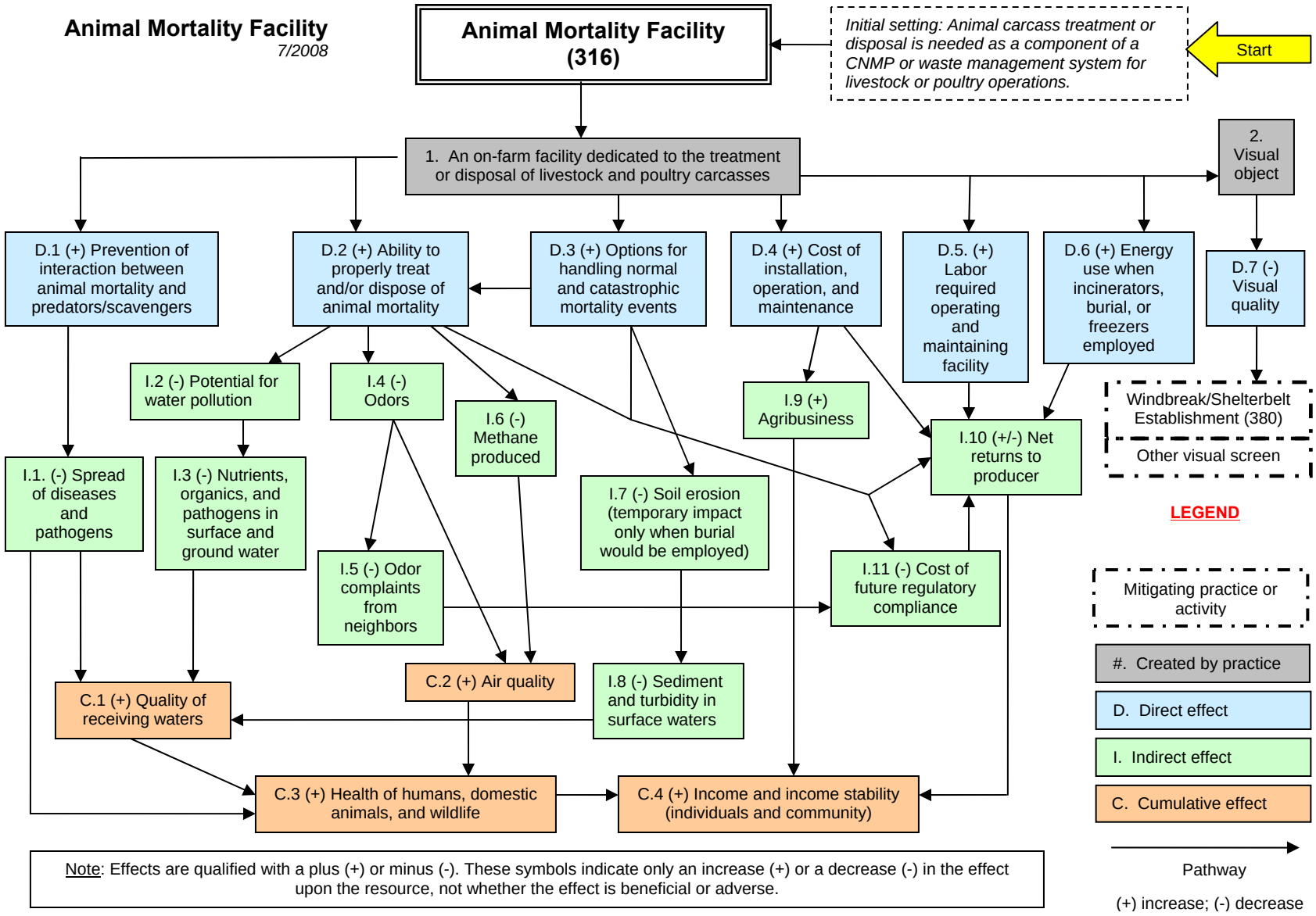
COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Animal Mortality Facility is commonly applied as part of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan with practices such as:

- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Diversion (362)
- Dike (356)
- Pond Sealing or Lining (521)
- Incinerators and freezers

For further information, refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated practice specifications and job sheets.

The following page identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.



The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.